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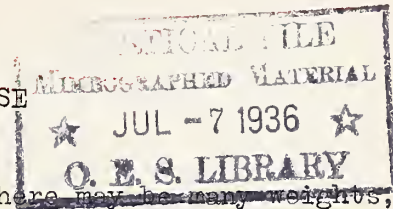




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SERVICE FROM SILK HOSE



Within each brand of hosiery there may be many weights,

determined by the number of threads in the yarn. These weights are often divided into three major classes: "Chiffon", fine yarns made into sheer fabrics; "semiservice", yarns of medium size; and "service", large yarns that produce substantial fabrics. In some stores "semiservice" is the term applied to five- and six-thread hose, "service" to seven-, eight-, and nine-thread hose; and "heavy service", to ten-, eleven-, and twelve-thread.

Full-fashioned hosiery is knit flat, shaped to fit the leg, and seamed together down the back of the leg and along the bottom of the foot. In most stockings, the leg is knit on one machine, called the legger, and the foot on another machine called the footer. Sometimes in transferring the stocking leg to the footer, lines are formed across the instep.

To wear well, hosiery should be elastic. Poorly made hose are not elastic enough to keep their original shape. The stocking should usually be one-half to three-fourths of an inch longer than the foot when bearing weight. Toe and sole reinforcements should be durable.

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